

January 17, 1996

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...Senator Dierks, if the Speaker would have had a power to designate which amendments and which motions, because I'll bet you odds...well I don't want to say what Senator Withem would have done because he's been very, very fair to all of us in the Legislature, but the potential for a Speaker to put the amendments that were important and then a rule suspension to shut off the debate of my rural colleagues was a sincere possibility. And I don't think that we, in the Legislature, want to do that. There's nothing to be afraid of of democracy with the exception of the concept of if we get too patient. It's ugly, it's dirty, but overall it's free. We're free to do that. And that's what this reconsideration is about, maintaining that freedom that we have. I would urge the body to vote to reconsider so that we can strike Section (c) and move on. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: The question before the body now then is the adoption of the Bernard-Stevens motion to reconsider the adoption of the Bernard-Stevens amendment. All...Senator Bernard-Stevens. The question is, shall the house go under call? All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 18 ayes, 0 nays to place the house under call.

SPEAKER WITHEM: The house is under call. Members please return to the Chamber and check in. Unauthorized parties, please leave the floor, the house is under call. Senator Bernard-Stevens, there are eighteen members gone, would you like to go ahead and vote?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: (Laughs) Let's wait just a minute.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Seriously, how would you like to proceed when they're all here?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Roll call vote, regular order.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Matzke and Senator Lindsay, you're needed in the Chamber. Senator Wehrbein, could you check in please. Senator Witek. Senators Lindsay and Robinson. Senator Lindsay. Mr. Clerk, could you proceed to call the roll on the Bernard-Stevens motion for reconsideration.